

STCG TANK SUBGROUP MEETING MINUTES

October 14, 1997

Welcome/Introductions (Cathy Louie)

Cathy opened the meeting. She began with a discussion of the recent Tank Closure Workshop, which was said to be "climactic" and is planned to be an annual event. Several breakout groups took place. The NRC commented on their incidental waste rules. Todd Martin made some key comments as well. We need to get a debrief from someone who actually attended, like Dirk Dunning.

A joint meeting of representatives from the Tanks and Subcon Subgroups was held on October 3 to coordinate the Hanford vadose zone technology needs. It was decided that both Subgroups will submit the needs (i.e., to both TFA and SCFA). Tom Tebb mentioned that he has some anonymous comments on the tank technology needs, which he promised to send to Cathy Louie, Paul Scott, and Linda Fassbender.

A joint workshop on horizontal drilling technologies, with representatives from the Tanks and Subcon Subgroups, was held on September 16. James Doesburg, President of Directed Drilling Technologies, Inc., discussed his proposal to do work at the Hanford Site. His letter of September 1996 stated that horizontal drilling technologies can meet the following Hanford needs:

- in situ remediation of radioactive contaminants and metals in soils
- off-riser sampling
- tank leak mitigation systems.

Risk-Based Approach to Tank Planning (Marilyn Quadrel)

Marilyn provided a brief status update on this TFA-funded activity. The purpose of the project is to help TFA determine what technology investments they should make. The model that has been developed is a spreadsheet-based program with the format of an influence diagram a few levels below the top-level TWRS functions (e.g., storage, retrieval). It will show how technology-level changes can impact the overall TWRS Program costs. Some key factors that can impact costs are: Congressional funding, closure issues, and vadose zone issues. About \$200K has been spent on this effort to date.

Only the baseline programmatic risks have been modeled; no ES&H risks are included. Marilyn's team has improved and validated the cost models, and the Privatization Team now wants to use the model to try to understand how the privateer proposals will impact

the life-cycle costs and schedule of the TWRS Program. TFA may also use the model to assist Savannah River.

The project is getting into the demonstration phase now, where Marilyn's team wants users to review and validate the model. They plan to meet with Nancy Uziemblo (Ecology) to determine if there is energy for moving this activity forward. Ecology's apprehension is that the right kinds of contingency planning are not being done (e.g., infrastructure needs). Paul Scott noted that FDH has no charter to investigate alternatives to the baseline.

Cathy stated that risk management is an approach where the users and EM-50 can collaborate. She likes the direction in which this work is going. Paul said that they have found vulnerabilities or gaps in the baseline, but not big enough opportunities to lower costs. The Subgroup should help look for such opportunities. Tom Tebb stated that we need to get on the path of treating tank waste to start learning. We can't keep doing "what ifs". We need to get some movement occurring.

Endorsement of FY98 Tank Technology Needs (Paul Scott)

Paul stated that comments on the technology needs were received from Barbara Harper (Yakama Indian Nation) and the TWRS project managers. One new need was added, called "Service Integrity Testing of HLW Tanks and Piping". The TWRS Program is most concerned with the piping. Cathy passed the needs package to the DOE/TWRS project managers to review.

Since there was not a quorum of voting members at the meeting, Cathy and Tom decided to submit the entire package of technology needs rather than just the high-priority needs. Cathy also mentioned that the TFA prioritization criteria have been refined and improved.

Preliminary Review of FY98 Tank Science Needs (Loni Peurrung)

Loni provided a preliminary review of changes from last year's tank science needs. There are 13 new needs this year, two from last year are to be eliminated, and five from last year are to be changed. Individual needs were discussed and comments were recorded. Loni was asked to bring the authors of the needs statements to the November meeting to explain them.

Action Item

Send anonymous comments on the tank technology needs to Cathy Louie, Paul Scott, and Linda Fassbender (Tom Tebb).

Meeting Attendees

Gary Ballew (Pacific Rim Enterprise Center)
Linda Fassbender (PNNL)
Bill Kuhn (PNNL)
Cathy Louie (DOE-RL/TWRS)
Vince Panesko (Pacific Rim Enterprise Center)
Loni Peurrung (PNNL)
Marilyn Quadrel (PNNL)
Rosalind Schrempf (PNNL)
Paul Scott (FDH/Technology Management)
Tom Tebb (Ecology)
Marv Weiss (CLN)

Next Meeting

The next Tank Subgroup meeting will be held on November 12, 1997, 1:00-5:00 p.m., in the ISB-1 White Bluffs Room. The following future agenda items have been identified (although not all of them will be on the November meeting agenda):

- endorsement of the FY98 tank science needs
- results from the member survey
- identification of tank problems to be addressed by the Subgroup
- benefits of Numatec's winning TDI proposal
- Subgroup roles and responsibilities
- TWRS budget/HTI endorsement letter
- technology needs process improvements